15 15 41

Numb. 1.

Mercurius Academicus:

Communicating the Intelligence and Affairs of OXFORD to the reſt of the Paſſive party thorowout the Kingdom.

From *Munday* in Eaſter-week, to *Saturday* the 15 of April, *Anno* 1648.

Et Spes, & Ratio Studiorum in Cæſare tantùm.

IF looſers have leave to ſpeak, *Academicus* needs no Apologie or Preamble to ſtuff his ſheet, and make full meaſure (as the faſhion is) with vantage and thumb-breadths to inch it out. And therefore to hold the Loyal and honeſt-hearted in ſuſpence no longer (who would hear from their Mother, I preſume) we ſhall endeavour the like ſpeed in *relating*, as our *Viſitors* in *acting* Miſchiefs; not letting our phant'ſie looſe, or dancing about the Matter as we might do, which on evident ſymptomes of her Recovery, we ſhall in a more compacted ſtyle and elevated vein attempt hereafter. In the mean while, 'tis worthy our obſervation what a ſeaſonable time they pitch on to ſet forward their Reformation-journey: For having begun on *March* 27, (his Majeſties Coronation-day) they have proceeded ever ſince moſt vigorouſly. And leſt that Antichriſtian and Heathenish cuſtom of being in charity with all the world at *Eaſter* ſhould continue as heretofore, they make choice of this time on set purpoſe to interrupt and take men off it, placing a more beau-

tiful and glorious object before their eyes, even a full body of Regulating members met together.

Where first, that they might *establish and promote Christs Kingdom* (which a long time has been their promise to the world) to do it the neerest way, they fall upon his Church with might and main: For, meeting on *Easter-eve* in *Christ-Church-Hall* to summon the members of that Foundation to appear on munday in *Easter week* in the *Deans* Lodgings, accordingly the game began very early upon that morning (such an Holy-day makes mischief relish) when by a posted Paper they ordained *that Doctour* FELL *should immediately remove his family and houshold-goods, and yeeld up possession to Master* EDWARD RAINOLDS (a Visitor) *as his lawful successour by Vote in Parliament*: But finding the Religious Matron his wife unwilling to part with all for asking it, who therefore with her young ones kept under Lock and Key to avoid the expected Tyranny of their Oppressors, they resolve now, *vi & Armis*, to subdue her spirit, and make her yeeld, having the Souldiery at their back to help them forwards, (*Independents* to settle the *Directory*, is very pretty!) who with directions given from Engineer-Vulcan-*Rogers*, and their own acquired Dexterity in the trade, brake open the dissenting Doors; where entering into the choicest rooms, they expected obedience unto their Summons: But that Royal Foundation could acknowledge no Visitor but King CHARLES, which by a general absenting themselves the mock-*Visitors* might perceive; although the Founder and they may seem of kin, and the very same Motto serve to know them both, (*Ego & Rex Meus*) which the Cardinal (as well as they) even unto this day is famous for.

Having cooled themselves by sitting still uninterrupted by any company but their own all-knowing Consciences, and a domestick Cat or two, they expresse their discontents in writing, and post it in publike view, as followeth.

WHereas many members of this University have by studied delays endeavoured to retard the great work of Reformation intended by the Parliament; We the Visitors of the said University,

versity, having information given us that some Members pretend to have taken no Arms up against the Parliament, but upon constraint; and others to have been Souldiers onely in this Garison for the preservation thereof, and therefore desire the benefit of the sixteenth Article concluded on at the surrender of Oxon; *do hereby allow such persons until Friday the 7 of April, to bring in their several Pleas and Pretensions (whereby they conceive themselves capable of receiving favour) under their own hand-writing, to any one Visitor that shall be present; to be adjudged of by any five at their Convention. But if any one shall refuse this so fair an offer, we know not what Apologie to make for them when we shall be called upon (we cannot tell how soon) to give a just account of our Proceedings; where we desire all to take notice, that no frivolous or vain pretences will avail in this so weighty a work of Reformation.*

This was no sooner pulled down, but a second supplied his place, which ran in these words, as followeth.

WE the Visitors, appointed by several Ordinances of Parliament, and special Ordar under the Great Seal, for the visiting, regulating and reforming the University of Oxon; *do hereby cite to appear before us, all Governours, Masters, Fellows, and Graduates that claim any right of Vote in Convocation-house; more particularly, Doctor* Potter, *late President of* Trinity-*Colledge; Doctor* Newlin, *President of* Corpus Christi-*Colledge; Master* Waring *of Christ-Church, Master* Hunt *of* Magdalene-*Colledge, late Proctors of the University, with all the Delegates elected in the pretended Convocation on the first of June last past, to make their appearance on Friday the 7 of April, to give in their Pleas and Scruples in behalf of the University, and deliver up all the* Insignia *of the late Vice-Chancellor and Proctors, with the Beadles staves, unto us: Of which fail not, as you will answer at your perils.*

But these Paper-Kytes were so hooted at, that they appeared thereby more ridiculous: whereupon they got up on horse-back to conduct the renowned Chancellour to do the feat; who on Tuesday the 11 of *April* came amongst us accompanied with

such Tag-raggs for his followers, that one would swear he came Ambassadour from *New-England* by their Rabbinical Monkey faces, or that old *England* made a general Muster of all her Spawns at once.

The Master of the Revels was no sooner come, but *Orlando Furioso* CHEYNEL begins the Play, who stood ready at *Merton*-Colledge provided with a Speech to entertain him, (which his Lordship and his horse did understand alike:) After that, a most costly Bible was presented him, and a Gratuity from the Maior and Aldermen: the later he accepted, and gave them thanks; but the former he thought a jeer put on him, and bequeathed it to his Chaplain to make his best of.

In the evening, Orders were given out that a Convocation should be the day following, and the new-made Beadles to acquaint the Gown-men with it; who having got a copie of the form to divulge it in, proclamied it in false Latine most significantly.

Which the Rabble took notice of more then others, and repaired accordingly to see the sight, which in earnest was worth their labour: for his Lordship with his immediate substitute, and their adjutants *Crosse* and *Button*, with the Visitors and their appurtenances, being come *omnium gatherum* into the Convocation-house, proposed a new Creation to the world, but was not heard by reason of the noise and hissing, such as never was before in that place, since *Adam* was first created.

This caused his mouth to open, after admiration of his learned silence; who now told them the common way was broken down, and as the case now stood was useless, they having got by conquest all the Power, and adventured their dearest blood to purchase it; Proctor *Crosse* confirming the same in the Speech he read aloud, with tautological and more scholastick Anglicisms, then the mixt multitude could understand with patience, who sufficiently exploded his unbeseeming ignorance, and went their way.

But the work of Creation must go forwards; and therefore Proclamation was made to all persons whatsoever, that had laid aside their Allegeance and Learning for the seven late yeers of trouble, and been occupied in employments of any other na-

nature, to nominate what degree they ſtood for, and 'twas their own; provided they continued in the ſame opinion ſtill, to be faithful to their Creator and his Nurſery, which may be famous in after-times, and flouriſh. Nay, the two factions did ſo claw each other in this Aſſembly, that the Officers (to make them Gentlemen) (though *Independints*) were created *Maſters of Arts*, the *Governour* himſelf not excepted; ſo that now they may preach by their authority, who have railed againſt them in their Sabbath-workings ever ſince *Frank Cheynel* and Maſter *Erbury* fought their Scripture-Duel.

This Comedy was no ſooner ended, but a Tragedy ſucceeds upon it. For coming with all the train to *Chriſt-Church*, they enter the Vice-Chancellors houſe with expedition, where Earl *Philip* (without an oath) profeſſing 'twas for his Countries good, the Vertuous and Heroick Gentlewomen were deſired to quit their quarters; but refuſing the kinde propoſal, were conveyed out in a chair by Souldiers; one of them uſing this expreſſion without the leaſt ſigne of diſcontent, *that though now ſhe was carried away in a chair, ſhe doubted not to come thither hereafter upon her own legs again.*

And becauſe the head cannot ſuffer ſingly, unleſſe the members partake and ſhare with it, while their hand is in, they obliterate theſe following Doctors from being Canons; *viz.* Doctor *Hammond* Orator to the Univerſity (whom *Corbet* a Viſitor ſucceeds in Office, and would ſpeak if he had a ſpoon, or words to utter) Doctor *Gardiner*, Doctor *Iles*, Doctor *Paine*, Doctor *Morly*, and Doctor *Wall*; whoſe places are filled up with theſe unanimated clods of earth, *Aaron Rogers*, Superviſer of New-Inne-Hall, and Viſitor, *viz.* *Henry Langley* Comptroller of *Pembroke*-Colledge, *Henry Wilkinſon* of *Magdalen*-Hall, a Viſitor, *John Mills* Judge-advocate to the Army, and Viſitor, *Toby Corniſh* the ſqueaking Lecturer of *Alhallows*. Theſe are the hopeful quick-ſets newly grafted, for which the goodly Cedars muſt be removed and hewn down; the delicate Muſhromes of this age, that in one day grow up to their maturity, and like Medlars are reſerved in State-pickle, moſt eſteemed of for being rotten.

From *Chriſt-Church* they go to *Mary Magdalens*-Colledge, which

which having had the preeminence of that ſanctified *Hall* adjoyning to it, to the ineffable heart-breaking of the godly members appertaining thereunto, muſt part with their learned Preſident Doctor *Oliver*, and admit of that creeping Mole-catcher old *Wilkinſon*, with *Cate* his Doxy, to govern and bear rule over them. Who no ſooner had got poſſeſſion, and took leave of their ancient Pigeon-houſe, but they ſnugg'd it together lovingly all that night, and dream'd not of *Nabothe* vineyard taken from him; for he never was guilty of too much Scripture-knowledge, who ſo often paid fourty ſhillings to have his courſe ſupplied at S. *Maries*, while himſelf ſtaid at home (good ſoul) in meditation and ſerious ſtudy how long the melliflious Sugar-ſops would be in preparing for him.

S. *Johns* is the next they viſit, whereof that gallant learned man Doctor *Bayly* is Preſident; who knowing his doom before, was ſo far from fleeing, that he took occaſion to meet half way with his antagoniſts: where after a Paſſado complement with his Chancellorſhip, they require a ſubmiſſion to their Power, and admiſſion into his lodgings preſently; but received this anſwer from the Doctor, that *for active obedience unto them, without palpable breach of Oathes he might not nor would do it, yet willingly would be paſſive, that his conſcience might not ſuffer ſhipwrack by it*: which made his Honour ſcratch his periwig and noddle too, to pump out a moving argument; but his brain-pan put out of order, at laſt he cried out in plain Engliſh, *Maſter Doctor, Reſigne your keys, that we may enter*: which he refuſing to do, the ſledges and Iron Crows were called for. At entrance his pretty children ſtood, which a Jew would have taken compaſſion of, many of them being aguiſh, who therefore had double mercy ſhewed to them; firſt, a months time to remove for Maſter *Cheinels* coming in, and then unintendedly their agues frighted from them.

But learned Doctor *Shelden* (Warden of *All ſouls*) ſpeaking his minde home unto them, and beating them with their own retorted weapons, for which many opprobrious terms were put upon him. We cannot omit one paſſage worthy laughter, to ſee how their ſhadows frighted them. The diſcourſe being hot about the Cauſe, and the Doctor maintaining no Parliament

with-

without his Majestie the Creator of it, Sir *Nathaniel* puts in, and tells him that his Lordship would *Sol* that *Quære*: which enraged him so on sudden, that he began to open, and make way for his distracted answer: *What meat you by this* (says Earl *Phil.*) *you intend not to entrap me, do you? To my knowledge the chair stands ready, and his Majesty may sit there if he please: I come not as Chancellor now, or Visitor, (ye are mistaken) but by immediate order from the States, and those I will live and die with.* Being mum on the sudden all, and put to silence, the Doctor must pay for's learning that had thus worsted them, and therefore was forthwith sent with a guard of Musketiers to prison, yet accompanied with the peoples prayers to guard him better, who followed him in whole troops, and bestowed their blessings on him.

'Twere endlesse to relate all quarrels with Governours and Heads of Houses; as, for not opening the gates to admit his Highnesse, who is too lofty (by the head) to get in at a door or wicket, for which Doctor *Potter* of *Trinity* Colledge was ejected by him, that Patriark *Harris* a doting *Visitor* might enjoy both his house and Profits.

I desire you'll not expect I should give you the Speech his Lordship made in the Convocation to the *Visitors*; for I hear you have it from a more dexterous hand.

And now let the world take notice what a blessed Reformation is like to be, when the executioners and their adherents are the onely gainers by it; when the most eloquent Heads in *Europe* are cut off, that the informers against them, and the same men their ejectors, may succeed them, when (as Bishops and Calvenists received their doom in one day, so) by the same command *our University* and the *States close-Stool-house* must be in the same week voided.

And therefore the tribe at *New-Inne*, with the brethren of the same cut, to evidence their obliged gratitude to the Privie-Counsellor and Academical *Gold-finder* by his Office, are printing a Book of Poetry upon his coming; one copie whereof coming lately into my hands (through a mistake) I shall (for the Authors reputation) here insert, that the Reader may judge beforehand of the rest, and save the expence of three-pence to buy the whole.

Phi,

Phi, malus, & Lippus, scripsisti in Versibus, Owen,
Pembrochiâ *negat hoc, (fallaris ergo)* Comes:
Nolo Philippenses atque Hebræos recitare
Tam malè, Spurcanti Carmine, nescio quid.
Nil piget, intuitus nostrum si quando Libellum
Exclumes,—Paucos hic ut Orbe bonos:
Quod si Pembrochius *maculetur Carmine, Cancellarius, & Mendax Presbyter, & Nebulo es.*

Englished thus:

Owen, thou say'st that *Phi* and *Lippus* are
Two words of Ignominy; have a care.
How could'st thou quite forget (that dwell'st so nigh)
Philip of *Pembroke* and *Montgomery?*
We Hebrews and Philippians, to our power,
Will vindicate our Lord and Chancellour.
Nor had we been so mov'd if one had said
There's not a good verse in the Book we made.
If then your verse our Chancellour did mean,
We say you are a knave, and lie, again.

Why this is a vein indeed befits the matter: if those other in the holy language should be so quarrelsome not one Volume will contain them all, for fear they should fight for sheet and seniority in taking Places, until severed they be blown to th'Mercers shop to wrap up Pepper and tallow-Candles in.

That in a loathsome manner they may die,
As will their Rebel-subjects's Memory.

FINIS.

I could never learne yt any other
numbs of this merc. Acad. were
afterwards published.